



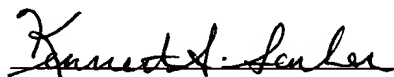
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lamphere et al. Att'y Docket: 1611/122  
Serial No: 09/733,624 Art Unit: 1723  
Date Filed December 8, 2000 Examiner: Sorkin, D.  
Invention: SHAPED DIAPHRAGM FOR A Date: March 23, 2004  
CENTRIFUGE SYSTEM ROTOR

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 23, 2004.

  
Kenneth S. Sachar

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Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this preliminary amendment, attached with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and requests consideration of the following additional claims and, in response to the office action of October 23, 2003, the following amendments and remarks.

Appl. No. 09/733,624  
Amdt. Dated March 23, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of October 23, 2003

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.